



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

# SCIENCE

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1914

THE MECHANICAL, THE HISTORICAL AND  
THE STATISTICAL

## CONTENTS

<i>The Mechanical, the Historical and the Statistical</i> : PROFESSOR JOSIAH ROYCE .....	551
<i>The National Academy of Sciences</i> : DR. ARTHUR L. DAY .....	566
<i>The American Physical Society</i> : PROFESSOR A. D. COLE .....	569
<i>The American Journal of Botany</i> .....	570
<i>The Canadian Entomological Service</i> .....	570
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i> .....	571
<i>University and Educational News</i> .....	575
<i>Discussion and Correspondence</i> :—	
<i>Mineral Nomenclature</i> : EDGAR T. WHERRY.	
<i>The Wellesley Fire</i> : LOUISE SHERWOOD McDOWELL .....	575
<i>Scientific Books</i> :—	
<i>Savage-Landor's Across Unknown South America</i> : DR. J. C. BRANNER. <i>Stamper's Teaching of Arithmetic</i> : LAMBERT L. JACKSON. <i>Adams on Animal Ecology</i> : DR. V. E. SHELFORD. ....	577
<i>Special Articles</i> :—	
<i>The "Golden Mean" in the Inheritance of Size</i> : B. H. A. GROTH. <i>"The Lowest Temperature Obtainable with Ice and Salt"</i> : DR. ROSS AIKEN GORTNER .....	581
<i>The American Petroleum Society</i> : IRVING C. ALLEN .....	585
<i>The American Bison Society</i> : WILLIAM P. WHARTON .....	586

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

## I. PRACTICAL PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING

THIS meeting is the outcome of conversations which resulted from the recent book of Dr. Henderson on "The Fitness of the Environment." Yet this company is not called for the sake of discussing, on the present occasion, that book, or any of the scientific problems which it more directly considers. The connection, then, between Dr. Henderson's book and this evening's undertaking needs some explanation. As you know from the wording of the call to which you have so kindly responded, one principal purpose which I have in mind as I address you is practical. I shall ask you, before the evening is done, to give some thought to the question: Is it advisable for us to meet again occasionally, as opportunity offers, in order to discuss some questions of common scientific interest. You represent various departments of research. Is it worth while for you, or for some of you, at your own pleasure, to come together in such a way as the present one, in order to take counsel about different problems which belong, not only to a single science, and not only to some special group of sciences, but also to the realm which is common to a decidedly wide and varied range of scientific inquiries?

My part in this evening's discussion is determined by this practical question. I can not come here as a representative of any one department of research in natural science. I am limited in my present undertaking to such an appeal as a student of philosophy may have a right to address to